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Message Text

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17
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R 252059Z JUN 74
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 136465

FOLLOWING REPEAT LONDON 7841 ACTION SECSTATE INFO ANKARA ATHENS NICOSIA 21 JUNE 1974. QUOTE:

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 07841

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PFOR, GR, TU, UK
SUBJECT: BRITISH REPORT OF FORGED GREEK "WAR DECLARATION" TO TURKS

1. BRITISH COUNSELLOR ANKARA WAS TOLD TODAY BY MFA'S SOYSAL THAT TURKS HAD RECEIVED GREEK MFA NOTE JUNE 20 SIGNED BY 3 GREEK GENERALS (3RD ARMY OR CORPS COMMANDER AMONG THEM) WHICH SOYSAL CHARACTERIZED AS "TANTAMOUNT TO A WAR DECLARATION". GREEK MFA THEN TOLD TURKS TO DISREGARD IT. TURKS PUZZLED, AS THIS NOTE RUNS CONTRARY TO MOST RECENT PRIOR COMMUNICATION, WHEN GREEK MILITARY TOLD TURKISH GENERAL STAFF THAT NO RPT NO MINES WOULD BE LAID DURING GREEK MINE LAYING EXERCISE IN AEGEAN.

2. BRITISH EMBASSY ATHENS REPORTED SHORTLY THEREAFTER THAT IT HAD CHECKED WITH GREEK MFA AND WAS TOLD THE NOTE WAS A FORGERY. NEVERTHELESS, INTERESTING THAT FORGERY WAS PUT INTO TURKISH HANDS AT JUST THE MOMENT WHEN TURKS WERE EXPECTING A COMMUNICATION FROM GREEKS.
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3. FCO SOUTH EUROPEAN DEPT. HEAD GOODISON COMMENTED TO US THAT THIS SEEMS ANOTHER INDICATION OF DISORGANIZED GOVERNMENTAL SITUATION IN GREECE, WHERE MANY COLONELS AND MAJORS ARE ABLE TO TAKE NUMEROUS ACTIONS WITHOUT HIGHER CONTROL. HE ALSO NOTED JINGOISM BEING BANDIED ABOUT IN ATHENS.

ANNENBERG

UNQUOTE SISCO

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